

An image processing apparatus prepares dot cluster within block by pixel value shift to determine phase quantity every pixel value block at the time of constituting stripe pattern or texture of dots by set of dot clusters within  
5 respective blocks to control value of pixel shifted from respective pixels within block to shifted pixel designated within block in accordance with phase quantity thereof. Thus, it is possible to control position within block of  
10 dot cluster within corresponding block by level smaller than pixel size. In addition, an image processing system includes at least an image reading unit in addition to such an image processing apparatus and preferably comprises an image forming unit to thereby obtain high picture quality  
15 and stable image.